

NO: **R222**

COUNCIL DATE: **December 12, 2011**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **December 12, 2011**

FROM: **Fire Chief**

FILE: **2240-20**

SUBJECT: **Fire Dispatch Service Agreement with Greater Vancouver Regional District to Provide Dispatch Services for the Villages of Belcarra and Anmore**

RECOMMENDATION

The Surrey Fire Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Authorize the appropriate officials of the City to execute an agreement with the Greater Vancouver Regional District for the provision of fire service-related dispatch services for the Village of Anmore and the Village of Belcarra for a 3-year term commencing on January 1, 2012 all as generally described in this report.

BACKGROUND

Surrey Fire Services operates a dispatch centre as part of its overall operation and, in addition to serving the City's own needs, provides dispatch services to the following clients:

District of Maple Ridge	City of Langley
City of Port Coquitlam	Township of Langley
City of Pitt Meadows	City of White Rock
Bowen Island Municipality	Village of Lions Bay
District of West Vancouver	City of North Vancouver
District of North Vancouver	Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Squamish Lillooet Regional District (North)	

The Surrey Fire Services dispatch centre is well positioned to serve additional dispatch clients. In 2010, a total of 52,573 emergency incidents were dispatched through the Surrey Fire dispatch centre. Over 32,000 of these incidents were dispatched on behalf of the BC Ambulance as first responder. The Surrey Fire dispatch centre also handled 4,522 "after hours" engineering-related calls.

Currently, the Village of Anmore and the Village of Belcarra are provided fire protection by the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department. The Sasamat Fire Department is being dispatched through

the Port Moody Police Department. In March 2010, a review was undertaken, which resulted in a recommendation that the Sasamat Fire Department transition to a fire service dispatch provider and implement/utilize a CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system.

In November of 2010, the Sasamat Fire Department requested a proposal from Surrey Fire Services in relation to the provision of dispatch services for their service area. This request was followed up with site visits and radio configuration discussions. The trustees of the Sasamat Fire Department have now forwarded a resolution to the Greater Vancouver Regional District recommending that an agreement be executed with the City of Surrey for the provision by the City of Surrey of fire dispatch services for the Villages of Anmore and Belcarra, which are both served by the Sasamat Fire Department. In combination these Villages are expected to generate approximately 60 incidents per year. This number of incidents can easily be absorbed by the Surrey Fire Service dispatch centre without any adjustments to staffing or equipment.

DISCUSSION

The Fire Protection Services (Fire Department) is a function of the Greater Vancouver Regional District under a bylaw that addresses fire department service for the Villages of Anmore and Belcarra. As such, the contract for the provision of fire dispatch services for these communities would be between the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the City of Surrey.

Subject to Council approval of the recommendations of this report, the dispatch services under the proposed Agreement with the Greater Vancouver Regional District would have a term of three years commencing on January 1, 2012. The proposed Agreement has similar provisions to the other agreements for dispatch service delivery into which the City of Surrey has entered with other local and regional governments across the Province as noted above. The subject Agreement would result in the following revenues to the City of Surrey in each respective year of the Agreement.

Department	2012	2013	2014
Greater Vancouver	\$5000	\$5125	\$5300

The revenues as noted will more than offset the costs that the City will incur in providing the necessary dispatch services incurred by the City.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council authorize the appropriate officials of the City to execute an agreement with the Greater Vancouver Regional District for the provision of fire service-related dispatch services for the Village of Anmore and the Village of Belcarra for a 3-year term commencing on January 1, 2012 all as generally described in this report.



Len Garis
Fire Chief

LG/jg